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Jordan Times

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Nervous Israelis tighten restrictions on West Bank

TEL AVIV, July 14 (Agencies) — Israel's military government in the West Bank today warned several prominent Palestinians not to engage in political activity, a military spokesman said.

Spokesman said all the members of the National Guidance Council, an organization regarded as the primary coordinator of West Bank opposition to Israeli rule.

Council members were asked to report to the local military authorities and were given a deadline of July 15 to do so, the spokesman said.

Although the council was never formally established, it has been active since the Hebron attack in May 2 in Hebron in six Israeli settlers were killed and the military government placed armed guards at the homes of all West Bank mayors.

Authorities have expressed concern that the recent calm in the West Bank may be broken following the return of Nablus Mayor Ali Shal'a from treatment in a hospital.

Shal'a, a political heavyweight, was taken to a hospital in the West Bank after he was shot in the chest by a car bomb on July 10.

Since the Hebron attack, military authorities have placed restrictions aimed at curbing political actions.

Mayors are forbidden to leave their cities without permission from the military government and almost none were expected to welcome Mr. Shal'a to Nablus.

That is for their own safety and also for us to be sure that they're not meeting," the spokesman said.

- Arab mayors warned
- 'Stay home,' 3 editors told
- Harassment at Jordan River bridges

After three assassination attempts against the mayors of Nablus, Ramallah and Al Bireh on June 2, the military government placed armed guards at the homes of all West Bank mayors.

The sources said that the order, which affected the editors of Al Shab'a, Al Fajr and Al Talf'a, would be effective for one day only but did not give any reason for the move.

Palestinians who cross the two bridges across the Jordan River to the West Bank have recently been complaining of harassment and insults by the Israeli authorities during inspection procedures.

Miss Raymonda Tawil, a well-known Palestinian journalist who owns the Palestine Press Service in Jerusalem, said she was exposed to an insulting and humiliating inspection at one of the crossing points last Wednesday. She said she was ordered to strip off her clothes and the Israelis then passed a metal detector over her entire body.

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Raymonda Tawil

Regional Briefs

BAHRAIN, July 14 (R) — South Yemeni Foreign Minister Salim al-Mohammed left for Kuwait today saying that South Yemeni President Ali Nasser Mohammad would shortly pay visits to Iraq and Bahrain. The minister, who arrived from Qatar yesterday, said he had delivered letters from President Mohammad to Amir of Qatar, Sheikh Khalifah bin Hamad Al Thani, and Amir of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa bin Sulman Al Khalifah. The sage dealt with bilateral relations, the situation in the Gulf and Arabian peninsula and Arab issues, he told reporters.

IRO, July 14 (R) — Australian Labour opposition leader Bill Hayden said today that he recommended to President Anwar Sadat that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) be allowed to participate in the Middle East peace process, but said that his party is not intended to recognise the PLO at this stage. Mr. Hayden, who met President Sadat on Saturday, told reporters: "I suggested to the president that it would be undesirable not to give the PLO because there is a very real risk their exclusion will create difficulties if not undermine the (Camp David) process."

ANKARA, July 14 (R) — The Turkish government, in a significant move apparently aimed at appeasing Muslim fundamentalists, said today Istanbul's famed Aya Sofya mosque would be opened for prayers for the first time in 45 years. The mosque, a Byzantine church in pre-Ottoman times, has been a mosque since 1935 after the founder of the Turkish Republic, Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, turned Turkey into a secular state. It has been a source of controversy since, with strict Muslims regularly demanding the right to pray there. Culture Minister Tefvik Koraltug said last night the mosque would be open for prayers towards the end of the holy month of Ramadan (Ramadan).

HAARTOUM, July 14 (R) — Anti-government guerrillas in north Sudan claimed today to have captured two Soviet doctors and wounded 300 Ethiopian troops in a nine-hour occupation of the ancient capital of Axum. A communiqué from the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) said a guerrilla force took control of Axum, Ethiopia's capital up to the seventh century, on Sunday. The TPLF said the doctors, Nikolai Grikor and Lidia Argia, had been working in the government hospital there. It was the first time any of the guerrilla groups fighting Ethiopian forces in the Horn of Africa have claimed to have captured Soviet troops. The Soviet Union and Cuba are helping Ethiopia in its fight in the north and east but Soviet personnel are rarely reported at the front lines.

ADIS ABABA, July 14 (AP) — Bulgaria and Ethiopia signed a friendship and cooperation treaty today, the news agency BTA reported. The treaty was signed on the last day of a Bulgarian visit by an Ethiopian delegation led by Lt. Col. Menen-Haile Mariam, the chairman of the Provisional Military and Administrative Council. Details of the agreement were not disclosed, but BTA said it was of a higher level than an agreement signed in 1978.

BAHRAIN, July 14 (R) — The commander of the Syrian national army, Col. Rifaat Al Assad, left Saudi Arabia today after a three-day visit during which he met King Khalid, the Saudi press agency reported. Col. Assad, who stayed in the Saudi summer resort town of Taif, also held separate talks with Crown Prince Fahd bin Abdul Aziz and other Saudi leaders. The agency gave no details of the discussions. Col. Assad is the younger brother of Syrian President Hafez Al Assad.

TEHRAN, July 14 (R) — Thirty-six prisoners sentenced by the Islamic revolutionary court in Sanandaj, Kurdistan, have been executed to mark the start of the holy month of Ramadan, the news agency reported today. It gave no details of prisoners' offences or sentences.

Palestinians start hunger strike inside tough Israeli prison

TEL AVIV, July 14 (AP) — Prisoners in a special jail for Palestinian "security risks" went on a hunger strike Monday to protest poor food and conditions, Israeli radio reported.

The 74 inmates of the Nafha Prison east of Beersheba claimed they are kept in "collective haley" and demanded special medical checks and control of the prison kitchen. A spokesman for the prison system said all their demands were categorically rejected. Nafha was specially built to contain Arabs convicted of security offences, including commando attacks and membership in guerrilla organizations. Prison officials moved the toughest Palestinian convicts from other prisons to the high-security building, and in a rare interview last week, prison Commissioner Haim Levy maintained that special nature of his prisoners made necessary special harsh conditions.

Israel radio reported that the hunger strike was triggered by the transfer of three inmate leaders to solitary confinement in another prison, following stepped-up efforts to organize the prison. According to the Yediot Aharanot newspaper, the Nafha inmates have imported the Orsionian discipline of the Palestinian guerrilla organizations, with a tightly controlled hierarchy, training courses and an inmate court which has passed the death sentence on disobedient inmates.

Yediot reported that trouble began at Nafha several weeks ago, when inmates knifed a guard in the face. Following the knifing, the warden decided to move the three Palestinians, who served life sentences, to solitary in Shatta Prison.

The inmates claim they are kept eight or 10 to a tiny cell with only small holes in the ceiling for sunlight and air. They are let out for only two hours a day, and are forced to eat their meals in their cells. They sleep on the floor and are constantly hungry, they claim.

A prison spokesman said medical checks had determined that the air, light and food were adequate for the prisoners, but Mr. Levy confirmed other prisoner claims.

He said in an interview in the Haaretz newspaper that security prisoners were not permitted into the dining hall, were forbidden to view television or listen to radio, and were forced to sleep on the floor because of a shortage of mattresses.

"This is for security reasons," Mr. Levy said. "They continue to work against the state, and I see this as a dangerous group. I must maintain certain conditions to prevent mass breakouts or revolt."

'No Arab flags in Jerusalem until Arabs say it's ours': Begin

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 14 (R) — In a fresh burst of defiance on the status of Jerusalem, Prime Minister Menachem Begin said today Muslim flags could fly over the holy city only when Arab states set up embassies there and recognised Israel.

He was commenting on a statement by the leader of the Labour opposition, Mr. Shimon Peres, that if his party regained power it would allow Arab flags to fly over sacred Muslim sites following an overall peace agreement. Egyptian President Anwar Sadat has suggested that Israel allow this also.

Mr. Begin, who was leaving hospital after recovering from a mild heart attack, said: "If the 21 Arab states recognised Israel and Jerusalem as its capital, their flags could fly over their embassy buildings in the city."

The statement demonstrated heightened Israeli feeling over Jerusalem and the way it has been treated as a major issue on the international scene.

The main cause of foreign indignation has been a bill, now on its way through the Israeli Knesset legally enshrining the Israeli hold on East Jerusalem.

It was this measure which prompted Egypt to suspend last May talks with Israel and the United States on autonomy for the Palestinians of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. The talks got off to a shaky start again yesterday in Cairo.

Official sources said last week that the pressure of parliamentary business looked likely to delay the Jerusalem bill until after the Knesset rises for its summer recess at the end of this month. The measure could not then be approved before October.

Mr. Begin told reporters he felt fit and well after his two weeks in hospital, where he was taken after collapsing with a mild heart attack in the Knesset.

The prime minister said he would spend two more weeks recuperating at home, with occasional work, before resuming his full duties.

'You're lucky to have legs'

Mayor jeered at Kahane trial

RAMALLAH, July 14 (R) — Jewish youths jeered today as Mayor Ibrahim Tawil of the Israeli-occupied West Bank town of El Bireh testified at the trial here of an ultra-nationalist rabbi, Meir Kahane.

"You're lucky to have legs to walk on," one youth shouted at Mr. Tawil, who was the only one to escape unhurt in bomb attacks against West Bank mayors last month.

Rabbi Kahane and a supporter, Mr. Yossi Dayan, are charged with incitement, distributing anti-Arab propaganda, insulting a soldier and disturbing the public order on two separate occasions in Nablus and Ramallah.

The judge adjourned the hearing without fixing a date for the continuation of the trial.

Coup plotters may attack hostage sites, Iran says

TEHRAN, July 14 (R) — A special security headquarters set up to deal with the plot the government said it foiled last week said today that fugitive conspirators might try to attack locations where American hostages are confined.

In a statement broadcast over the state radio, it also called for utmost vigilance to prevent any of those still on the run from trying to leave the country.

Warning that "local agents of the U.S. plots... may carry out bombings in crowded areas or sensitive political or social points," the security headquarters added: "It is possible that they will attack places where the American spy hostages are kept in continuation of their terror plan."

Two former generals are reported to have confessed their involvement in last week's attempted coup, which was intended to restore former Prime Minister Shahpour Bakhtiar to power, according to the government. And in Ankara, the Turkish government confirmed today that two Iranian army officers, both lieutenants, flew an Iranian army helicopter into Turkey last Friday and asked for political asylum in the United States. It was not immediately known if their flight was related to the foiled coup.

A Foreign Ministry statement said the helicopter had landed in the eastern Turkish province of Agri. It said Iranian authorities had been notified of the incident, but gave no further details.

A U.S. embassy spokesman in Ankara said the embassy had not been notified by the Turkish authorities of the asylum request.

PURE
NATURAL
MINERAL WATER
Kawther
17 Litres
MINIMUM ORDER
WITH DELIVERY:
10 Cartons
PHONES: 25551-23221

In draft for General Assembly session Arabs propose U.N. force to oversee Israeli pullout

UNITED NATIONS, July 14 (R) — A draft resolution proposed by Arab states in preparation for a session of the General Assembly next week called for a U.N. force to oversee Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab lands was circulated today.

The draft resolution, which was prepared by the Arab League, was circulated to member states of the U.N. and the Soviet bloc, and to the U.S. and the U.K. for their comments.

The paper was submitted to the U.N. Secretary-General as a preliminary to the formal adoption of a draft resolution, which would be discussed at the General Assembly next week. The draft resolution calls for the U.N. to start withdrawing from the occupied Arab lands by Nov. 15.

It would also request the U.N. to establish a U.N. force to oversee the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the occupied Arab lands.

Only four members of the Arab League responded to Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim's call for a response to the proposed holding of the session.

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A number of Arab states have expressed interest in the draft resolution, but the U.N. Secretary-General said he was disappointed that so many Arab states had not responded to his call for a response to the proposed holding of the session.

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Under the terms of the U.N. Charter, this is a responsibility reserved for the Security Council. But the emergency of the situation will be held under a "uniting for peace" procedure, which permits the General Assembly to recommend some of the council's actions when the council is deadlocked.

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Dr. Rimawi pledges to follow Sharif Abdul Hamid's policies

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN, July 14 — The Prime Minister, Dr. Qasem Al Rimawi, today pledged to follow the same policy lines as his predecessor, the late Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf, and to cooperate fruitfully with the National Consultative Council (NCC) and the Upper House of Parliament.

of the causes of our country and our nation." The late prime minister's works and policies will continue to be the foundation of the new government, appointed the same day Sharif Abdul Hamid died, Dr. Rimawi said.

In his letter of appointment to Dr. Rimawi, His Majesty King Hussein expressed his wish that the prime minister would "keep the same team and follow the same path which we had outlined to your late predecessor." In his statement to the NCC today, Dr. Rimawi stressed that Sharif Abdul Hamid's policy statement before the council is "binding on the present government." The government would also adhere to the letter and spirit of "all statements made by the late Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf on all occasions," Dr. Rimawi added.

In his letter of appointment, King Hussein also stressed that the country's "strength, development and progress" should constitute "a goal preceding any other goal" of government, programmes. He said the citizens' social and economic problems should provide "continued incentives for honest efforts" by the government.

Dr. Rimawi said today his colleagues "will abide by these principles" and stressed that the NCC "will continue to be the source of true advice" to the government. He pledged that the government "will strive to work hand in hand (with the NCC) and will accept (the members') questioning of its actions, their advice and recommendations."

Opening the session, NCC President Ahmad Tarawneh had paid tribute to Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf, "a man who worked faithfully and in truthfulness in the service of the Jordanian people and the Arab Nation."

Mr. Tarawneh praised Sharif Abdul Hamid's cooperation with the council and pledged to accord

Dr. Qasem Al Rimawi

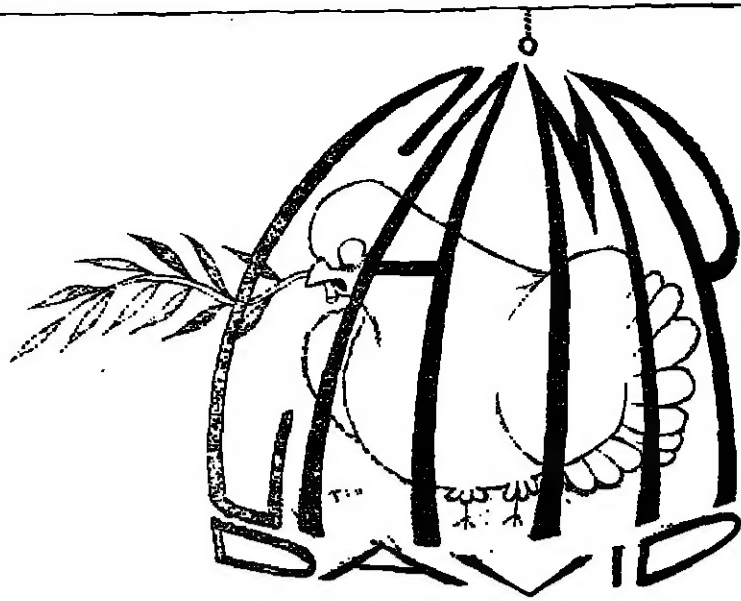
Dr. Rimawi's government full-cooperation for the country and the number of NCC members made speeches in which extolled Sharif Abdul Hamid's death as "a great Jordan" because of his "dedication to the country, its development and progress."

The members recalled the prime minister's efforts in the Palestinian cause, Arab and Islamic, and his work as Jordan's delegate to the United Nations proposal to name the University of Yarmouk.

Afterwards, Dr. Rimawi endorsed decisions of the NCC concerning "draft loan agreements and the Iraq Fund for Development of Jordan" and between Jordan and the Arab League.

The council also discussed the financial situation of the United Nations Relief for Palestine.

(see story page 3).



— from the Arab News, Jeddah

Jewish settlements encircling Jericho complete Israel's 'facts on the ground'

By Alan Elsner

JERICHO — Ancient Jericho, whose walls once tumbled to the Biblical trumpets of Joshua, may soon find itself surrounded by new ramparts — a ring of Jewish settlements.

Sources in the World Zionist Organisation's Settlement Department, which is responsible for settling Jewish settlements in occupied territories, said it intended encircling the town with nine Jewish settlements.

"We have a line of settlements along the length of the Jordan Valley but there is one gap, north and south of Jericho. We want to fill that gap within the next three or four years," the sources said.

Three settlements have already been established and a fourth is under construction. Ground clearing work on two more is expected to begin later this year.

According to Mr. Zeev Ben Yosef, personal aide of Settlement Department Chairman Mattiyahu Drobless, the plan to ring Jericho with settlements has special strategic importance for Israel.

"Previous Israeli governments left this gap on the assumption that Israel would eventually pull back from most of Judea and Samaria (the occupied West Bank). It was to be a corridor link-

ing (east) Jordan to East Jerusalem and the West Bank," Mr. Ben Yosef said.

"But the present government under (Prime Minister) Menachem Begin does not recognise the possibility of Israel ever withdrawing. In sealing up this corridor, we want to kill the idea forever," he said.

Israel's settlement programme has aroused worldwide opposition, with even the United States repeatedly condemning the settlements as obstacles to peace.

West Bank Palestinian leaders have also denounced the Jewish outposts. In a recent interview, Deputy Mayor of Nablus Zafir Al Masri said the settlements were responsible for the deteriorating West Bank situation.

"The settlers are foreigners who came and took our land. They are all armed and we are unarmed. Their very presence is a provocation which creates tension and leads to violence," he said.

Jericho has until now escaped any violence. A sleepy little desert oasis, it is one of the oldest towns in the world (6,000 B.C.). There is none of the atmosphere of tension that characterises other West Bank towns.

Here, under a blazing sun, people move slowly without wasting

their energy and smilingly refuse to answer political questions from reporters. They are more used to giving directions to tourists looking for the excavations of the ancient city.

The oldest of three Jewish settlements in the vicinity is Mitzepe Jericho, founded in October 1977. It is perched on a hill overlooking the town and commands a spectacular view of the Dead Sea and the whole area.

Settlement Secretary Yossi Kolin said that the Labour government, which ruled Israel until May 1977, prevented his group from settling in the area eight times.

"Eight times we tried to settle here and eight times they threw us out. But when Mr. Begin came to power, everything changed," Mr. Kolin said.

Mr. Kolin is a religious Jew who belongs to the extremist Gush Emunim (faith bloc) movement. He admitted that the settlement has had its problems in its three-year existence.

"Two separate groups came to live here, one religious and one non-religious. Unfortunately we had different ideas about how to run the settlement and couldn't get along together," he said.

Two months ago, these disagreements erupted into fighting and the police were called in to separate the two sides. Now, it has been decided that the 20 non-religious families will move out to another settlement and be replaced by a new religious group.

"We number 40 families all living in prefabricated houses. We have a synagogue and kindergarten but no school yet. There is no employment here and every one works in Jerusalem or Maale Adeumim, a settlement just east of Jerusalem," Mr. Kolin said.

He said the residents were waiting for planning permission to begin building permanent houses. They had also submitted several plans to open light industrial projects at the settlement.

The Israeli government and World Zionist Organisation give financial aid to individuals setting up such projects, in grants and loans of up to \$10,000.

Just two kilometres outside Jericho, a bulldozer was working on the newest settlement in the area, Vered Jericho. A dust road has been cleared to its site and the prefabricated dwellings in which the settlers will live are already in place.

As Arab labourers sweated under the burning sun, the site foreman said the outpost would be fit for habitation within two or three months.

"We have only to fix up the water and electricity supply, tar the road and install telephones and gas and the residents can move in," he said.

Five more settlements, all within three kilometres of Jericho, are no more than dots on the Settlement Department's map. Work would soon start on them, the Settlement Department's Mr. Ben Yosef said.

"We are now in a race against time and we are stepping up the pace. We must create as many facts on the ground as we can so that when the Palestinian autonomy talks are over, we can claim everlasting sovereignty over the area," he said.

"This desert region will soon be a thriving Jewish area. Every Jewish settlement is a contribution to peace and Israel's security. Soon, Arabs and Jews will live in the Jericho area side by side," he said.

REUTER

Race against time

"We are now in a race against time and we are stepping up the pace. We must create as many facts on the ground as we can so that when the Palestinian autonomy talks are over, we can claim everlasting sovereignty over the area."

— Zeev Ben Yosef, an official of the World Zionist Organisation's settlements department.

IF EVER an explanation were sought as to why Arab states and the Palestinians have kept well clear of the Camp David "peace process," the above quotation sums it up.

With the attempted resumption in Alexandria of the stalled Egyptian-Israeli "autonomy" talks, it is worthwhile re-examining the Zionist interpretation of the proposed "autonomy" scheme.

Even President Sadat and his negotiators, having already gone so far down the slippery slope—and having tried, unsuccessfully, to drag the rest of us down it as well—are now balking at Israel's absolute obstinacy on this question and on the paramount issue of Jerusalem.

Autonomy is designed as a shield for occupation, pure and simple. Far from being, as the language of the Camp David accords tried to make it seem, a "first step" towards even a modicum of self-rule for the indigenous inhabitants of Palestine, it is, rather, meant to provide a cover for the acceleration and expansion of Israel's colonial presence in the West Bank and Gaza.

Far from being offered a chance to realise historic and inalienable right to self-determination in their own homeland if they were to participate in this scheme, the Palestinians are instead being asked to act as accomplices in their own subjugation—in fact, in their own extermination—as a sovereign people.

Mr. Sadat now claims to be exasperated with Israel's intransigence. He is now being quoted as saying that Mr. Begin does not really want peace. This claim, however, has dawned on him rather late in the day.

The period of time since the start of the "autonomy" negotiations has coincided with the most outright and blatant attempts by the Israeli "regime" to carry out "facts on the ground," to complete the absorption of all of occupied Jerusalem and the rest of Palestine into the Zionist entity, and to strip the Palestinian people of their land, their water, their homes, their leaders and their own dignity. This is the only real "process" that is going on.

With Israel's American protectors now pre-occupied with the 1980 presidential election, and with the candidates of all parties in that election seeking to curry favour with Jewish voters, Mr. Begin knows that the coming months are even more propitious for realising his messianic dream.

It is those who are being robbed of their homeland and their nationhood who are in the real race against time.



Jericho has until now been a peaceful town isolated from the turmoil of politics in the occupied West Bank. But the building of a ring of Jewish settlements around it may end that.

Local News Briefs

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I: His Majesty King Hussein yesterday ordered the allocation of 20 per cent of all places in our universities and higher educational institutes to the children of members of the armed forces, the public security forces and intelligence service, and instructed that the State should meet the expense of their education in full.

By this action, King Hussein was expressing the esteem and gratitude which Jordan's citizens feel for the men who have built the strength, stability and security of this homeland. King Hussein expressed this when he said that the members of the armed forces and the various public security departments have given to this homeland beyond imagining, and that this contribution is appreciated and cherished.

The cost of education is getting higher and higher all the time. Meanwhile, it is becoming more and more difficult to get admitted to a university of other institute of higher education. The new measure will lift a heavy burden from the shoulders of the members of the armed forces and public security. Therefore, on behalf of every Jordanian citizen and on behalf of every officer, non-commissioned officer and soldier in the armed forces and public security, we thank King Hussein and renew our pledge of loyalty to him.

AL DUSTOUR: With the vision of a leader and the compassion of a father, His Majesty King Hussein yesterday made a regal gesture to the members of the armed forces and security forces by allocating 20 per cent of all places in universities and higher educational institutes to their children.

This decision comes when the cost of living is steadily increasing, particularly for this class of people. This is why the measure is greatly appreciated by the members of the military and security forces, who are shouldering the burden of sacrifice and giving for the sake of the homeland.

This decision comes to help our brethren in the armed and security forces cope with the educational requirements of their children. It also shows that King Hussein is eager to consecrate the principle of social justice in Jordanian society and to give everyone in it equality of opportunity. An educated society is a society which can hold out in the face of the challenges of the age and the dictates of progress on the basis of justice, equality, and cooperation within one family.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Painting exhibition

The Department of Culture and Arts, under the patronage of the minister of culture and youth presents an exhibition of paintings by Omar Hamdan. The exhibition is open during office hours and from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the Art Gallery of the Ministry of Culture and Youth and will run until July 20.

KARAK, July 14 (JNA) — The Queen Alia Jordan Welfare Fund (QAJWF) today completed a survey in Karak Governorate to collect information and data about the status of women and the economic and social conditions of villagers. The survey was carried out in cooperation with the Ministry of Social Development and the Department of Statistics. The QAJWF's director, Dr. Kamel Abu Jaber, said the month-long survey was conducted in six villages and 300 women, chosen at random, were interviewed. The survey, he said, was also aimed at sounding out whether the women approved of training courses on traditional and handicraft work which would augment family income. The collected information is now being analysed before a recommendation can be made, Dr. Abu Jaber said.

AMMAN, July 14 (JNA) — Japan this year made a total contribution of \$5 million to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA), an increase of \$1 million over last year's figure, an UNRWA release said today. In addition, it said, Japan made a donation of \$4.5 million worth of food supplies to the world agency this year. Total Japanese contributions to UNRWA since 1950 amount to \$43 million.

AMMAN, July 14 (JT) — His Highness Prince Mohammad visited the Prime Ministry this afternoon and held a brief meeting with the Prime Minister, Dr. Qasem Al Rimawi.

AMMAN, July 14 (JT) — The President of the U.N. General Assem-

bly, Mr. Salim Ahmad Salim, left for Damascus today via Ramtha at the end of a three-day visit to Jordan. During the visit Mr. Salim was received in audience by His Majesty King Hussein to discuss the role played by Jordan in the activities of the United Nations, and developments in the Palestine crisis.

AMMAN, July 14 (JNA) — The Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) said today it has completed the third phase of the national power grid. This entailed the extension of a 132-kilovolt power line over 40 kilometres from Al Hussein thermal power station in Zarqa to a transformer station south of Amman. The JEA has also completed the construction and installation of a 90-megawatt central transformer station south of Amman. The project is needed to provide more electric power in the area south of the capital, including the Queen Alia Airport, now under construction.

AMMAN, July 14 (JNA) — The deans of the faculties of engineering and sciences at the University of Jordan, Dr. Bassam Abu Ghazaleh and Dr. Marwan Kamal, left for a 20-day tour of universities in Canada and the United States. The visit to Canada is at the invitation of McGill University in Montreal, where they will discuss bilateral cooperation in science and engineering. The two deans will also have meetings at a number of engineering colleges in the United States to seek their cooperation with the University of Jordan.

AMMAN, July 14 (JT) — A spokesman for the Civil Status Depart-

ment said today that the department is considering using all computers for the storage of information. He said the section would serve as the nucleus of a population bank and in open channels with the department's branches in various emirates.

AMMAN, July 14 (JNA) — Arab Wings, the executive subsidiary of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, today signed an agreement with a consortium of Jordanian banks for a JD 2 loan. The consortium groups Jordan Securities Corporation, Arab Jordan Investment Bank, the Housing Bank, the Cairo Bank, Jordan National Bank, the Bank of Jordan, Petra Bank, Syrian-Jordanian Bank, the Post Office Savings Fund, the Employees' Fund and the Arab Finance Corporation. The loan, guaranteed by Alia, which owns 88 per cent of Arab Wings.

AMMAN, July 14 (JNA) — The National Consultative Council sent a cable to His Majesty King Hussein expressing its appreciation and gratitude for his instructing the government to allocate 20 per cent of all places in Jordanian universities and higher educational institutes for children of members of the military and security. Similar cables were sent to the King by the Commander-in-Chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, Lt. Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shakir, director of the intelligence department, Maj. Gen. Ahmad U and the acting director of the Civil Defence Department, Mohammad Khasawneh.

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هكذا من الأصل

audi donation may save UNRWA educational services

NCC told

Jordan rejects cuts in UNRWA services

By Ron Cathell
Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN, July 14 -- The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) expects an announcement in the next few days that would bring substantial cuts in its educational services in Jordan and Syria, the Jordan Times has learned.

A western source close to UNRWA said its commissioner General, Mr. Olof Rydbeck, is now in Riyadh discussing the budgetary ailments of the agency. He expects an announcement soon of a major contribution, large enough to extend the education programme's execution date well beyond Sept. 30.

The agency still requires \$25 million to operate and provide the same services this year as it did last year. But even the 1979 level of services was not up to previous levels. Because of budget restrictions UNRWA last year was forced to reduce flour rations.

Of the \$25 million required this year, some \$10 million is needed to maintain the educational services through the end of 1980. Next year's budget would then provide funding for the remainder of the school year, if there are no major UNRWA budgetary problems in the first half of 1981.

Earlier this year Mr. Rydbeck announced that unless the agency received \$15.5 million by June 30

it would cease operating its schools in Jordan and Syria by Aug. 1. Recent contributions allowed UNRWA to extend the deadline to Sept. 30. The agency received \$5 million from Iraq and \$1.5 million from Kuwait.

The Deputy Undersecretary of the Ministry of Reconstruction and Development, Mr. Mazhar Nabulsi, said in *Al-Rai* newspaper today that UNRWA is faced with two alternatives because of its budget deficit. He said the agency can either reduce expenditures to match its income for 1980, which means reducing all services essential to the refugees, or it can continue to operate on a normal basis and provide full services until all its funds are exhausted, then stop all services -- which would mark the death of UNRWA.

Commissioner General Rydbeck has continually rejected the second alternative as unrealistic. He has assured the host countries and UNRWA employees that the administration will do all it can to

keep the agency going.

In September, representatives of the host countries will meet in Vienna to discuss a report by the commissioner general on the agency's budget problems. Mr. Nabulsi said the host countries will refuse to allow any cuts in services, but will offer proposals to solve the problem of the budget deficit.

the U.N. budget tend to receive higher wages than those on the UNRWA budget.

Another proposal is to do away with the voluntary basis of UNRWA's funding and make it dependent, instead, on donations collected from all U.N. member countries and based on a fixed percentage of each member's gross national product (GNP). This would be in accordance with Article 17 of the U.N. charter.

There was no comment from the local UNRWA office on the proposed funding system. However, the western source said it is an idea that the Arab host countries have for the last three years been suggesting to both western and East Bloc countries. "They have been met with a categorical no," the source said, adding that the proposed scheme is uncertain. "There's no guaranteeing that

the U.N. members, such as the Soviet Union, will pay their share. The new method doesn't assure it at all," he said.

He admitted that on the surface the idea sounds good. But when studied closely there are drawbacks. For example, donations from some of the largest contributors could actually be reduced under the proposed scheme. The United States now contributes about 35 per cent of the agency's budget. But under the new plan of donations according to fixed percentage of GNP, the U.S. share of UNRWA's funding could drop to 25 per cent.

"There is some question whether UNRWA would be any better off funded by the U.N., or by the present method of voluntary contributions," the source said.

AMMAN, July 14 (JNA) -- The government has told the commissioner general of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) that it will not accept any reduction in the services of the agency, especially its educational services, and has said it wants UNRWA to pursue its efforts to cover the deficit in its budget, the National Consultative Council (NCC) was told today.

A letter sent last April by the Ministry of Reconstruction and

Development to the Commissioner General, Mr. Olof Rydbeck, made it clear that in the government's view the United Nations, which gave UNRWA its mandate, should be held responsible for its finances, government statement said. It said the government cannot explain the failure of U.N. member nations to cover UNRWA's deficit. The agency should be supported in its efforts to offer humane services to the refugees, and the U.N. should honour its commitments to preserve its principles, prestige and charter, the statement said.

It added that UNRWA must take all necessary measures to obtain funds for its budget.

According to the statement, which was read to the NCC at today's regular session, the government sent a letter to its permanent representative at the United Nations instructing him to make contacts with Arab delegates and other representatives at the world organisation to raise the problem with the United Nations secretary general before the start of the 1980-81 scholastic year, with a view to averting any reduction in UNRWA's working team to redouble its efforts to secure the transfer of the necessary funds in accordance with the power invested in it by the U.N. General Assembly.

According to the statement, the commissioner general sent the government a reply on May 23, 1980 advising it that the financial situation has improved, Iraq having contributed \$5 million and Norway \$153,000. The commissioner general's letter said that UNRWA would be able to continue operating its schools in Jordan until the end of September 1980.

Education means a chance at equality for Palestine refugee women and girls

AMMAN -- More than 30 years of exile have helped to spur on young Palestine refugee women to seek accomplishment and honours in schools,

universities and vocational training centres. By bringing employment within their reach, education has enabled them to take the first steps towards equality between the sexes.



ay about half of the students in UNRWA's 627 elementary and junior secondary schools are girls.

Scholar looks into possible Syrian origin of Greek myth

By Pat McDonnell
Times Staff Reporter

SCUS -- Long before history, the ancient myth of Europa, a Phoenician princess who was kidnapped by Zeus, the king of the gods took the form of a white bull and carried off on his back across the Aegean to Crete. There, the king of Crete and his two sons -- one of them, King Minos -- went in search of the white cow and found a never it settled. Hence, the city of Crete was founded on the spot. Classical times was known as Crete and today bears the name of Thebes.

It was this that Europa's husband, went in search of the white cow and found a never it settled. Hence, the city of Crete was founded on the spot. Classical times was known as Crete and today bears the name of Thebes.

art historian and artist from Washington D.C. in St. Louis, Missouri, to prove the myth was on an actual movement (referred to as Phoenician classical times) to Crete to Greece. He is Prof. Symeonoglou, whose in the Europa-Kadmos when he excavated at

of the 10th century B.C. rejected Kadmos as a myth figure, or if they did him as an actual person, he said. "There is no foreign (East Mediterranean) influence in Mycenaean but there is for earlier say Early Helladic II and ending of Early Helladic III

meas, or Thebes, was as a small village around C., and it became a large 2200 B.C. I tested artifacts for some links between Thebes and Crete for this he continued.

professor's search took him to the East before 2200 B.C. roughly the time of the Old Kingdom in Egypt (third through dynasties), and the Early II period.

are a plentitude of forests which were imported at this time," Prof. Symeonoglou said. "Some are Egyptian, others are Egyptian and some objects are Syro-Palestinian in origin. I ascertained the Egyptians traded directly with Crete, there are no Minoan in Egypt for this period. Logists say the Egyptians

did not travel outside Egypt -- except to Byblos, for wood. Someone was importing Egyptian goods and Syro-Palestinian objects to Crete, and my guess is it was sea merchants from the Syro-Palestine coast."

Prof. Symeonoglou says he consistently found objects dating to the Early Minoan II period to back his theory. "Take ivory, for instance. If it didn't come from Egypt, it was imported from Syria, where elephants were found at the time. There also are a number of typical Syrian cylinder seals found in Crete during this period."

The next step in the professor's quest was to look for objects on the Syrian coast, particularly the area north of Tartus, which is relatively unexplored from an archaeological point of view.

"There are no major Early Bronze Age settlements on the coast, but the Orontes Valley has a wealth of Bronze Age tells (archaeological sites) which leads me to believe this is the area the traders started from," he said.

The professor hypothesises that Early Bronze Age Syrians traded agricultural goods from the Orontes Valley for metals from Crete.

"We know a great disaster struck Syria in the 23rd century B.C.," he said. "This is when the Akkadians destroyed Ebla and the Amorites invaded. If Syrians had traded with Crete and established friendly contact, it is possible that after these social upheavals, some of them took refuge in Crete and established themselves there. As they settled, the newcomers probably sought new land to cultivate and moved northward to the island of Kythera and then to Thebes."

Systematic archaeological excavations have proved that the Minoans established a colony on Kythera during the Early Minoan II Period. Prof. Symeonoglou has ferreted out clues that may prove these settlers were Syro-Cretans. These are, a stone ball inscribed with the name of the Fifth Dynasty Pharaoh Weserkhaf (who else but the Syrian seamen would have imported it to Kythera?), and an inscription bearing the name of the Mesopotamian king Naram-Sin. The professor also points out that the Greek historian Herodotus says a temple of Aphrodite on Kythera was nearly as ancient as her original temple at Eskalon, and was built by the Phoenicians.

"If my hypothesis is valid, then Herodotus was correct in stating the temple was built by Phoenicians. He wouldn't have referred

to these people as Canaanites or Syro-Cretans, in as much as the only name he knew for this group of Eastern Mediterraneans was that of Phoenician."

Prof. Symeonoglou theorises that during the Early Bronze Age II period, a group of people from Syria were the first navigators to sail systematically across the Mediterranean and establish the same type of contacts that are documented for the second and first millennia B.C.

"It is a 12-day trip to sail from Crete to Byblos by staying close to the harbours along the south Anatolian coast," he explained. "Following the disasters in Syria, these people probably migrated to Crete, where they were remembered as Phoenicians, and helped the Minoans create a sea power."

He theorises the penetration of Greece as gradual, as the Syrian immigrants moved first to Kythera some 100 kilometres north of Crete and finally reached Thebes. Over the centuries, this movement could have been retold and interpreted into the myth of Europa and her brother Kadmos.

The professor has completed a 10-day study on the remains of the Early Bronze Age civilisation in the Orontes Valley. On the basis of surveys previously conducted there by the French, he examined three tells and has set his sights on an impressive tell which is solely an accumulation of Bronze Age deposits except for a small Islamic settlement of the 12th century. This is Tell 'Asharne, which measures 1,200 metres in length and 30 metres in height.

"There are two exits from the valley to the sea," he noted. "One is from the north to Latakia, the other stretches from Hama to Banias, where there is a site resembling a Bronze Age fort which bears the name Al Qadmus. I feel this name is more than a coincidence. In fact, I was startled when I came across this place name that has remained after centuries of Islamic occupation."

"If I receive permission to excavate, I also intend to have paleobotanical studies made to see if the Syrians introduced advanced varieties of grapes and olives to Crete during the Early Minoan II period. And did they, for instance, introduce the pomegranate to Crete at this time?"

The professor has applied for permission to excavate from the Syrian Department of Antiquities and Excavations. If his application is approved, he'll apply for a grant and will, perhaps, be bringing reality to an age-old myth next summer when he excavates at Tell 'Asharne.

Young women represented only 26.5 per cent of enrolment in schools run by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) in the first year of operations in 1950. Thirty years later this proportion had risen to nearly 50 per cent: 48.5 per cent for the six years of primary education, and 47 per cent for the following three years of junior secondary education. Equality at school had been virtually achieved.

The Palestinian refugees' living conditions gradually drove them to break other taboos: that, for example, of the need for separate education of the two sexes. In some camps, co-educational schools opened because of the lack of school buildings or because there were not enough children to justify opening two schools. The benefits of co-education have now become evident: "A spirit of competition, development of the sense of equality, better understanding and respect between the sexes," according to an UNRWA school director in the Syrian Arab Republic.

new generation can read and write.

"A growing number of women students go in for scientific careers. Statistics for the most recent school year show that more than 50 per cent of student engineers and doctors are women," said Palestinian-born Mrs. In'am Al Mufti who is today the first woman minister of Jordan. Her portfolio is social development. In 1962 she became the first principal of the UNRWA women's training centre at Ramallah, near Jerusalem, the first centre of this type in the Arab World.

Other training centres have been established in the Middle East; some formerly reserved for men have opened their doors to women. Five of the seven UNRWA vocational training centres now accept women students, and more than half of the young people enrolled at the teacher-training centres are women. These young women still represent only a few hundred privileged ones each year -- and UNRWA is now endeavouring to expand this programme.

Illiteracy rate

Emancipation through education

The first consequence of this development is that it is now rare to find an illiterate Palestinian refugee less than 35 years old; and practically all the parents of the

Although the need to educate young women is not only admitted today but is also encouraged in the



A Palestine refugee woman in traditional dress symbolises a way of life that is very different from that open to her daughters.

TODAY'S WEATHER

It will be fair, with westerly moderate winds, freshening at times. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Aqaba 25 39
Deserts 23 39
Jordan Valley 25 38

Overnight Daytime
Low High
Amman 22 31

The high temperature in Amman on Monday was 33, while that in Aqaba was 40.

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Ramallah Women's Training Centre, north of Jerusalem provides teacher and vocational training to young Palestine refugee women.

AMMAN STOCK EXCHANGE REPORT

Name of Company	Par Value	Number Traded	High	Low	Closing Price
Jordan Petroleum Refinery Co.	JD 5,000	720	8,950	8,940	8,950
Jordan Cement Factories	JD 10,000	200	17,800	17,800	17,800
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Co.	JD 5,000	35	25,600	25,600	25,600
Housing Bank	JD 1,000	1,115	1,940	1,940	1,940
Jordan-Kuwait Bank	JD 1,000	5,815	2,170	2,170	2,170
Jordan-Gulf Bank	JD 1,000	2,874	1,510	1,510	1,510
Dar Aldawa Development and Investment Co.	JD 1,000	181	3,770	3,750	3,770
General Mining Co.	JD 1,000	423	1,430	1,430	1,430
Jordan Electricity Co.	JD 1,000	625	1,850	1,850	1,850
Jordan Ceramic Industries	JD 1,000	1,727	1,250	1,250	1,250
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural Co.	JD 1,000	3,060	3,110	3,100	3,110
Jordan Lime and Silicate Brick Industries Co.	JD 5,000	100	5,420	5,420	5,420
Arabian Development and Investments Co.	JD 2,000	100	1,310	1,310	1,310
Bank of Jordan	JD 5,000	20	12,850	12,830	12,830
Islamic Bank	JD 1,000	8,122	1,820	1,810	1,820
Arab Investment Bank	JD 1,000	200	1,500	1,500	1,500
General Insurance Co.	JD 1,000	150	1,680	1,650	1,650
Al-Sha'b Press and Publications	JD 1,000	100	0,940	0,930	0,940
Arabian Investment and International Trading Co.	JD 1,000	100	0,980	0,980	0,980
Jordan Spinning and Weaving Co.	JD 1,000	741	0,700	0,700	0,700
National Steel Industry	JD 1,000	3,200	2,110	2,100	2,100

Total Volume Traded on Monday, July 14, 1980: JD 61,800

Total number of shares traded: 28,708

Economic News Briefs

Iraq to inaugurate projects worth \$2.6b

BAGHDAD, July 14 (R)—Iraq will inaugurate projects valued at about 795 million dinars (\$2,600 million) during celebrations marking the July 14 and July 17 revolutions, it was announced here yesterday.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said the projects, which also marked the first anniversary of President Saddam Hussein succeeding President Ahmad Hassan Al Bakr, covered all provinces.

The monarchy in Iraq was toppled in a coup on July 14, 1958, while on July 17, 1968 the ruling Arab Baath Socialist Party returned to power.

INA quoted a report published here yesterday as saying that projects to be inaugurated included an iron and steel plant and an attached vocational training centre on Basrah, southern Iraq, costing \$195 million dinars (\$643 million). It said the plant, described as one of the biggest in the Arab countries, would have a 400,000-tonne annual production capacity.

Other projects include public services, roads and bridges, and educational, health and industrial schemes.

Abu Dhabi, Qatar await Saudi oil move

NICOSIA, July 14 (AP)—Abu Dhabi and Qatar plan to make no changes in their crude oil prices before Saudi Arabia makes a move, the Middle East Economic Survey reported yesterday.

Last week the weekly oil newsletter said Saudi Arabia is likely to maintain its current market price of \$28 a barrel while watching how market conditions develop.

Kuwait and Iraq have brought their prices to the \$32 a barrel ceiling decreed by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries in Algiers last month.

The United Arab Emirates produces 1.4 million barrels a day and sells crude at \$31.56 a barrel, while Qatar produces 500,000 barrels a day and sells at \$31.42 a barrel.

Iraq lends \$624m to Pakistan, Vietnam

BAGHDAD, July 14 (R)—Iraq has signed a long-term, interest-free loan agreement with Pakistan for \$19.5 million and another with Vietnam for \$605 million, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) said.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

U.S. dollar	290.50/292.50	French franc	71.80/72.20
U.K. sterling	690.10/694.10	Dutch guilder	152.60/153.50
West German mark	166.80/167.80	Swedish crown	70.50/70.90
Swiss franc	181.50/182.60	Belgium franc	104.00/104.60
Italian lire	35.00/35.20	Japanese yen	133.10/133.90
(for every 100)		(for every 100)	

reported yesterday.

INA said the money would be used to cover increases in the price of crude oil for the second half of last year. The agreements are part of a special programme designed to help developing countries, it added.

So far, nine out of the 12 countries involved in the programme have signed loan agreements, INA said. It listed them as Bangladesh, Mozambique, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Morocco, the Philippines, Madagascar, Pakistan and Vietnam.

Turkey devalues lira for eighth time

ANKARA, July 14 (R)—Turkey devalued its lira today by between 0.3 and 2.8 per cent against major currencies except the dollar. A government announcement said the changes were aimed at eliminating cross-rate differentials, the discrepancies in exchange rates caused by fluctuations of the dollar.

Turkey has realigned its currency at least eight times this year and further small adjustments are expected throughout the year.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is known to have pressed Turkey to keep readjusting the lira in return for large-scale Western cash aid, particularly a pledged \$1.625 billion IMF loan.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON, July 14 (R)—Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at the close of trading on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets today.

One sterling	2.3752/62	U.S. dollar	
One U.S. dollar	1.1503/06	Canadian dollar	
	1.7425/35	West German marks	
	1.9062/72	Dutch guilders	
	1.6030/45	Swiss francs	
	27.93/95	Belgian francs	
	4.0445/60	French francs	
	829.75/830.25	Italian lire	
	218.15/30	Japanese yen	
	4.1190/1210	Swedish crowns	
	4.8005/25	Norwegian crowns	
	5.4015/30	Danish crowns	
		U.S. dollars	
One ounce of gold	647.50/649.50		

Japan's exports to M.E. rise by 40.4 per cent

TOKYO, July 14 (R)—Japanese exports have risen substantially over last year, especially to the Middle East and Western Europe, according to June figures issued by the government today.

Japan's improved balance of trade position in June has been helped by a weaker yen which has made exports cheaper for foreigners to buy, and by a smaller oil import bill, the figures show.

The biggest yearly jump in exports has been to the Middle East, where the intake of Japanese goods has risen by 40.4 per cent compared with June last year.

Exports to the European Common Market have risen by almost as much as 39.8 per cent. Those to the United States have increased over the past 12 months by 20.1 per cent.

The export of ships has soared by 95.9 per cent during the past 12 months. Vehicle exports have gone up 34.7 per cent and industrial plant exports increased by 61.9 per cent.

Japanese imports, although falling from last month, also show a sharp increase over those of June last year.

The monthly drop in imports represents a levelling off in domestic consumption, reflecting some success in Japan's energy conservation policies and a relaxation in the oil market, although consumption normally shows a decline during the summer.

Japan's June crude oil bill fell 11.5 per cent compared with May. Nevertheless, it was up by 138.6 per cent on June of last year, showing the effect of rising world oil prices.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON, July 14 (R)—Share prices closed generally easier after a quiet session and at 1500 the FT index was down 1.4 at 491.6. The gloomy economic outlook inhibited any buying interest with oils a particular weak feature following the fall in spot oil prices which could trigger fresh petrol price reduction, dealers added. Government bonds ended 1/4 or 1/2 lower on balance in low volume.

Gold shares closed slightly above the day's lows while Canadian and U.S. stocks traded quietly mixed.

Lasmo finished 38p down in oils where Ultramar lost 12p. Other leading issues declined between 2p and 8p. ICI gave up 14p reflecting its North Sea oil interests but other leading industrials were only a few pence down on the day. GEC, Hawker and Lucas gained slightly against the trend as did bank leaders which added 6p apiece.

Rank Organisation dipped to a low of 174p from 194 after half year results before rallying to close at 180p.

In mining sector, Western Holdings returned from suspension after the merger proposals at \$7 1/2 and closed at 74 1/2 after a low of 73 1/2.

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, JULY 15, 1980

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll-Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The morning is fine deciding just what your overall ambitions are and to implement them by constructive action. Show others you have the necessary stamina.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Morning is fine for early through with creative matters and accomplishing a goal. Cooperate more with associates.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Complete whatever you have started before taking on another project. Plan to gain your finest aims.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Fine day to talk over with associates how to have more mutual rapport in the future. Don't spend money foolishly now.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Ideal day handle monetary matters that are important. Figure out what obstacles you have to overcome.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Morning is fine for handling personal affairs wisely. Try to meet expectations of family members and increase harmony at home.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Schedule your activities wisely so that everything will go smoothly later. Sides one who has an eye on your assets.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) State your plans to friends and they will quickly cooperate with you in getting them. Be wise about money matters.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Express some hidden talents you have and make a fine impression on high ups. Sides a fair-weather friend.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You will have exert more effort now if you wish to gain your cherished goals. Think constructively.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Fine out what is expected of you by associates and then do your best. Relax at home tonight.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be more cooperative with associates for mutual gain. Be extra careful in action now and avoid possible accident.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Improve your health that you can accomplish more in your line of endeavor. Stop wasting precious time.

AMMAN MARKET PLACE

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فَكَذَا مِنَ الْأَصْلِ

JORDAN TIMES SPORTS ROUNDUP

Moscow Games formally open on Saturday

MOSCOW, July 14 (R) — Soviet police today toured the Moscow Olympic press centre with a specially-trained dog apparently sniffing for drugs.

The police, both in uniform and plain clothes, inspected all areas in the areas occupied by foreign news agencies in the fully-guarded building.

It was the latest in a series of measures which have angered reporters, who are being subjected to rigorous checks by entering and leaving the centre and the press hotels.

A man in plain clothes, apparently the senior officer with a drug dog, declined to say what the dog was looking for. "We know we are after," he said.

Police are constantly patrolling the corridors of the press centre. At the weekend they were issued with standard powder-puffs to replace their grey uniforms and hats.

Thousands of thousands of extra police have been drafted into the city for the games and patrol the streets in pairs. Soviet citizens have been warned that some foreigners may try to stage "protests" during the Olympics.

Meanwhile Olympic leaders and advance parties of athletes have toured the closely-guarded sports venues where the Moscow Games open on Saturday.

The host city of the 22nd modern Olympics had a quiet Sunday, with traffic thinned out to leave nearly empty streets, decorated with greetings for athletes and tourists who have come despite the storm over the games.

Members of the International Olympic Committee executive board finished three days of meeting this morning and will tour facilities before the formal opening of the IOC on Monday.

IOC President Lord Killanin and his executive attended a forum with the head of the Soviet organising committee, Deputy Prime Minister Ignaty Novikov, and the IOC chief told him he was sure the games would be a success.

Mr. Novikov said the IOC and his committee had been united in common love of sport, and would ensure these were good games "despite the efforts of others to wreck the games."

Soviet first Vice President Vasily Kuybyshev will open the IOC in the Bolshoi theatre, leaving President Leonid Brezhnev formally open the games on Saturday. IOC protocol should see there are no political speeches on these occasions.

About 70 rank-and-file members of the world body are gathered for the crucial meeting, which must elect a new president to succeed Ireland's Lord Killanin, and seek ways to restore the tide of the Olympic movement after some 60 member countries decided to boycott these games.

The boycott, in protest against Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan, means that the United States, West Germany, Japan, China, Egypt and a large number of Muslim, and other countries will not send teams.

Main, France, New Zealand and others have sent reduced teams, dropping out of some of the 21 sports on the programme.

IOC members from most of the boycotting nations are attending the session. Canada's two members, James Worrall, a candidate for the presidency, and Richard Pound toured the games village in the southern suburbs of Moscow during the sunny morning.

At the 100,000-seat Lenin Stadium, where the opening ceremony takes place on Saturday, and which will be the athletics venue later, squads of students spent their Sunday marking out the plastic covered central pitch for the opening parade.

In the stand, young girls armed with paint brushes and stencils worked their way round the seats painting on the numbers.

Despite the Carter administration's trade boycott, which has forced the Russians to shop elsewhere for such items as computers, U.S. technology will literally be staring newsmen in the face at the stadium.

Technicians were wiring up broadcasting and television gear, some designed and patented in the U.S. but made in Japan, another boycott country.

At the Olympic village, Russian attendants were still wearing overalls with Coca-Cola badges even though the company has dissociated itself from the games.

Supplies of the rival Pepsi-Cola were being served at the village and in Moscow, but it was Russian-made.

The Russians say they expect about 90 national teams, and by this afternoon 67 of them, with 2,363 competitors and officials, had checked in.

Many competitors seemed to be taking a day-off. The practice track at the village was virtually empty for much of the day, though groups of athletes were working out at swimming pools and training sites elsewhere.

Around outlying sports centres like the archery range and two-kilometre rowing course, strolling Muscovites made the most of the last quiet weekend before the games.

New motorway curbs imposed in advance of the Olympics drastically thinned out traffic on Moscow's usually crowded streets.

As part of the intensified policing of the city, traffic patrols were taking a steady toll of speeding motorists and car owners who had apparently ventured into town without official clearance.

Australian wins British Grand Prix

BRANDS HATCH, England, July 14 (R) — Australian Alan Jones maintained his strong challenge for the world drivers' championships by winning the British Grand Prix motor race here yesterday.

The 33-year-old Williams driver capitalised on tyre problems which hit the Ligiers of early pace-setters Didier Pironi and Jacques Laffite of France and calmly registered his third successive Formula One triumph.

Brazilian Nelson Piquet drove his Brabham into second place and remained second behind Jones in the title battle. Williams number two Carlos Reutemann of Argentina finished third, just behind Piquet.

Tyrrell pair Derek Daly of Ireland and Jean-Pierre Jarier of France finished fourth and fifth respectively and Frenchman Alain Prost completed the leader board with sixth place in his McLaren.

Jones, who followed up his victory in the "illegal" Spanish Grand Prix by finishing first in France two weeks ago, now has 37 championship points, six more than Piquet.

Jones was handed the lead on the 31st lap of the 76-lap race when Laffite suddenly crashed out after a puncture. The Frenchman had earlier gone ahead when initial pace-setter Pironi dropped back also after a puncture, after 18 laps.

Belgian wins 16th stage of Tour de France

PRA-Loup, France, July 14 (R) — Joseph De Schoenmaecker of Belgium won today's 16th stage of the Tour de France, a tough 207 kilometre climb into the French Alps marked by falls in the final sprint to the finish.

Joop Zoetemelk of the Netherlands held onto his overall lead despite a nasty fall 100 metres from the end. Zoetemelk went down on his left shoulder when another rider, staggering up the final sharp climb at 1600 metres, cut suddenly in front of him.

He climbed back quickly onto his cycle and continued the harsh push to the top with blood dripping from his arm. He said after the stage that the injury looked worse than it was and he did not feel it would hamper him in today's stage.

Schoenmaecker, 32, moved away from the field of riders early in the race along with Alberto Fernandez of Spain, who finished a close second. The two riders finished more than two minutes ahead of the pack.

Christian Seznec of France was third.

Peanuts



Andy Capp



JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION

CHANNEL 3

8:30 Korns
8:40 Cartoons
8:50 Children's Programme
9:00 Religious Programme
9:10 Religious Programme
9:20 Arabic Comedy Series
9:30 News in Arabic
9:40 Religious Programme
9:50 Arabic Series
10:00 Arabic Programme
10:10 News in Arabic

CHANNEL 4

6:30 French programme
7:00 News in French
7:30 News in Hebrew
8:00 News in Arabic
8:30 Comedy
9:30 Saint Army
10:00 News in English
10:15 Outing

AMMAN AIRPORT

ARRIVALS
7:55 Cairo (EA)

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BBC RADIO

GMT

06:00 Newsdesk
06:30 The King of Instruments
06:45 Financial News, Reflections
06:50 World News: 12 Hours News Summary
07:00 Break Down the Wall
07:05 The World Today
07:10 Newsdesk
07:20 DJ Roundtable
07:30 World News: 12 Hours News Summary
07:35 The Beach Family
07:45 Network U.K.
07:50 World News: Reflections
08:15 Europa
08:30 Strictly Instrumental
08:40 World News: British Press Review
08:45 The World Today
08:50 Financial News: Look Ahead
09:05 DJ Roundtable
09:15 Break Down the Wall
09:20 Sports International
09:30 World News: News about Britain
09:35 Letter from London
09:40 World News: Scotland This Week
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Dispute with western networks expected Olympic news censored

MOSCOW, July 14 (R) -- Soviet authorities refused to relay a West German television report from the Olympic broadcasting centre in Moscow today after accusing the correspondent responsible of interviewing dissidents, West German television sources said.

The correspondent, Mr. Klaus Bednarz, of the ARD television network, was told his report on the Olympics and Soviet propaganda had been blocked because it concerned politics and not sport, they said.

The move followed a dispute with the West German newsman over Soviet objections that a series of reports he submitted for broadcasting contained an interview with a Soviet dissident.

Mr. Bednarz told officials there had been no such interview and that the only mention of a dissident -- Mrs. Yelena Bonner, wife of human rights campaigner Mr. Andrei Sakharov -- was in a message intended only as information for his editors.

Initially the Soviet television official who raised the objections had apologised. But half-an-hour later he telephoned Mr. Bednarz to say that one of the correspondents' four reports could not be broadcast after all, the sources said.

'Sport only'

Other western sources said a number of television correspondents, mainly Americans, had been strongly advised by the authorities to confine their reporting during the games to sporting issues.

The censored West German report had contrasted recent official statements asserting that sport and politics should not be mixed with another claim, from a Communist Party handbook, that holding the Olympics in Moscow was a triumph for Soviet foreign policy, the sources said.

Mr. Bednarz had mentioned Mrs. Bonner in a message relating to one of the other reports, which featured interviews with Soviet citizens who said they approved of the Moscow Olympics and thought the United States was stupid not to compete.

In his message the correspondent sought to explain to his editors that although this was

the majority opinion, some Soviet citizens took a dissenting view.

The sources said Mr. Bednarz felt the dispute was now a matter for Eurovision, an umbrella organisation linking numerous western television networks, which had hired the Soviet studio from which he made the broadcast.

Relays monitored

Western television reporters said Soviet authorities were insisting that reports relayed from the centre be edited there with Soviet technicians present.

In practice the technicians were able to monitor the reports and if necessary prevent them from being transmitted, they said.

But western television networks still had the slower option of sending film or videotape out of the country by air. Such material would not normally be censored, they said.

As a result, in Geneva, the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) has received an urgent communication from its operations group at the Moscow Olympic Centre.

EBU officials were trying to contact their chief executive who is elsewhere in Switzerland and were unable to confirm that the communication concerned the dispute involving the West German ARD television network.

Standard contract

An EBU spokesman said he could make no immediate comment on the Soviet refusal to relay the ARD report.

But he said a \$5.95 million contract between the EBU and the Soviet government for coverage of the games was a standard Olympic agreement containing no clause which would either allow or forbid political reporting.

The EBU signed the contract on behalf of 33 TV services in 26 west European and Mediterranean countries linked in the Eurovision system.

It permits the EBU to beam two multilateral services, one for major sports such as athletics and swimming, the other for minor Olympic events including yachting and canoeing. The union can also negotiate with Soviet authorities for a single TV company to make a unilateral transmission.

The EBU operations group has its own facilities in a Soviet broadcasting centre and can select material from Soviet cameramen in the different sports stadiums.

But all western transmissions, multilateral or unilateral, have to go through an international switching centre operated by Soviet technicians.

Broadcasting sources in Geneva said Soviet refusal to relay what it considered political material could become a serious complication at the summer games scheduled to start next Saturday.

Anderson talks with Schmidt

BONN, July 14 (R) -- U.S. independent presidential candidate John Anderson meets Chancellor Helmut Schmidt today for talks in which the West German leader is expected to discuss his separate meetings with the Soviet and French presidents in the last fortnight.

Mr. Anderson arrived in West Germany, after talks in Israel and Egypt, yesterday and praised the Bonn government's policy of

detente with eastern Europe, saying West Germany's recent and current leaders had shown "great vision" in seeking a dialogue with the Soviet Union.

Standing by the Communist-built wall running through the centre of Berlin, Mr. Anderson said former chancellor Willy Brandt and present West German leader Helmut Schmidt had served the German people and all people well together. He called the 19-year-old wall a "hideous reminder" of discord between East and West and a "potent symbol marking the boundary between freedom and oppression."

"But skilful political leadership has made it more porous," he said in reference to Bonn's detente policies. With American backing, West Germany had managed to "bridge the chasm," reuniting

Kremlin to defend Moscow Olympiad

MOSCOW, July 14 (R) -- Olympic leaders take a day off for pomp and ceremony today before starting their crucial Moscow session designed to restore all possible dignity to the battered Olympic ideals.

Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev and the other Kremlin leaders are expected to welcome IOC members, heads of world sporting bodies and other members of the Olympic family inside the red-walled Kremlin palace.

The IOC's stubborn insistence on going ahead with the Moscow games has been attacked by western governments, with U.S. President Carter and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher spearheading the campaign.

Many IOC members insist that the American campaign lost any chance of success when Mr. Carter sent his then Secretary of State, Mr. Cyrus Vance, to open the session before the Winter Games at Lake Placid, New York, last February. He was armed with a speech strongly attacking the proposal to carry on with the games which were awarded to Moscow during the period of East-West detente.

First Vice-President Vasilii Kuznetsov is expected by members to defend Moscow's right to hold the games, while IOC President Lord Killanin will insist that his independent body had no sporting reasons to change the venue.

Meanwhile the Communist Party newspaper *Sovetskaya Rossiya* said special schools had been set up in Britain to help train agents to sabotage the Moscow Olympics -- a report dismissed as "rubbish" by the British defence ministry in London.

The report said one of the schools was at a military base in Oldham, northern England, and the other in Derbyshire, English midlands. It said

the U.S. and NATO intelligence services were behind the schools.

Some 60 of the 150 eligible nations and territories will be absent when the games open in the Lenin stadium on Saturday. The Russians said 67 countries had registered nearly 2,400 athletes and officials in the Olympic village by noon yesterday while more came later in the day.

Today's IOC session must approve changes in procedure to allow several delegations to avoid the nationalistic rites normally applied during the games.

Several countries will follow the example of Britain, which will send only a single team official into the stadium, bearing the Olympic flag rather than the Union Jack, behind a sign saying "B.O.A." for "British Olympic Association," rather than "Great Britain."

Other teams, such as France, include athletes who insist they will make personal protests against the Afghanistan situation whenever possible, walking away from honours and wearing shirts bearing anti-Soviet slogans.

IOC members want to preserve as much decorum as possible, feeling that the Olympic movement should stand above politics.

Lord Killanin and his executive board, while accepting that the future of the Olympics is at stake, have gone ahead with preparations for the future.

Sarajevo, Yugoslavia, and Los Angeles, California, will report on Tuesday and Wednesday on their progress towards hosting the 1984 winter and summer games.

The IOC is also expected to stand firm against moves to change the venue of the major Olympic congress in 1981 from West Germany, one of the boycotting nations this month.

Mystery attack on Cuban ships off Saharan coast condemned

HAVANA, July 14 (R) -- Cuba's government-controlled press and radio condemned today an attack by unidentified aircraft on two

Cuban ships off northwest Africa on Saturday which killed the captain of one vessel and wounded three officers.

The official Prensa Latina news agency said the ships were attacked 50 kilometres off the coast of the Moroccan-administered Western Sahara after leaving Las Palmas harbour in Spain's Canary Islands.

It said the ships were fuel tankers in the area to supply the Cuban tuna fishing fleet which operates in the mid-Atlantic.

There was nothing in the report to link the incident with Cuba's support for Polisario Front guerrillas fighting Moroccan troops to set up an independent state in the Western Sahara, formerly a Spanish colony but now controlled by Morocco.

Morocco broke off diplomatic relations with Cuba on April 23, after Havana recognised the "Sahara Arab Republic" proclaimed by the Algerian-backed Polisario front.

Today the press and radio condemned the incident as a criminal, vile and cowardly attack on unarmed ships, and a meeting of more than 500 members of the ruling Communist party in Havana observed a minute's silence in memory of the dead captain.

The victims of the attack were the captain of the Moroboro, Mr. Manuel Ventura, who was killed, his chief engineer and first officer, who were both seriously injured, and the first officer of the Guillermo Pico, Mr. Jesus Quintana, who was slightly wounded.

Polisario guerrillas have seized the crews of Spanish and Portuguese ships at least four times in recent years.

The latest incident was last May when guerrillas said they had destroyed a Spanish trawler and captured its crew.

In a statement issued in Algiers, the Front said that it had warned foreign fishing fleets not to "loot the Western Saharan Republic's resources in fish."

45 killed in Salvador violence; embassy occupation continues

SAN SALVADOR, July 14 (R) -- Police said yesterday at least 45 people were killed in politically-motivated violence in the last 24 hours in El Salvador, where peasants are holding the Costa Rican embassy.

Police said the bullet-ridden bodies of 31 people were found in the country's second city Santa Ana, 680 kilometres west of San Salvador.

Seven more people were shot dead by unidentified gunmen in San Salvador and five guerrillas and two patrons were killed in an attack in a nightclub.

A group of 90 peasants who occupied the Costa Rican embassy on Friday continued to hold the building today after negotiations to end the occupation were postponed.

Leftist militants of the Popular League of February 28 (LP-28), who masterminded the seizure, will start talks with the ambassadors of Mexico, Costa Rica, Venezuela and Panama today at

the request of the envoys, who asked for more time to consult with their home governments.

A guard was killed in a clash with the militants who led the charge at the embassy and fled as the peasants made their way inside.

A statement later from the LP-28 said the peasants stormed the embassy to demand an end to what they called government repression and the release from jail of leftist militants.

The statement asked the governments of Mexico, Costa Rica, Venezuela and Panama to grant the peasants political asylum "because if they return to their homes they will be persecuted by the government."

Human rights and church officials have estimated that more than 3,000 people have died in political violence in the past six months in fighting between leftist and rightist extremists seeking the overthrow of El Salvador's ruling civilian-military junta.

'U.S. is underestimating Russian men and arm coming to Afghanistan'

NEW DELHI, July 14 (R) -- It is impossible to say whether the new Soviet troops are still pouring into Afghanistan more than six months after the Soviet-backed coup, travellers from Kabul said today.

"There has been a big increase in the number of Soviet transport planes bringing in troops and equipment," one western traveller said.

They were mainly four-engine Ilyushin-76s of the Soviet Aeroflot airline, said the traveller who did not want to be named.

He said it was generally felt among western observers in Kabul that the U.S. government's estimate of 80,000 Soviet troops in Afghanistan was too small.

"There are many more. Maybe Washington goes for a lower figure because it does not wish to be accused of exaggerating," he said.

Moscow announced last month that it had withdrawn several thousand troops from Afghanistan, but the traveller and others arriving here from Kabul, said the Soviet Union appears to have replaced them with older, more experienced anti-guerrilla fighters.

Another western traveller had been serious involving rebels at Ghazni, Kabul, in recent days. Some Kabul-bound had been held up as long as days because of firing on the highway to the capital, he said.

But things were quiet on the road northwards to the north, although there were at Soviet checkpoints on the supply routes.

World News Briefs

WASHINGTON, July 14 (R) -- American diplomat Mr. R. Queen, one of the U.S. embassy hostages in Iran until his release Friday, is in good condition but medical tests will last a day or two, state department official said today. Mr. Queen, 28, vice-consul in the Lindsay air force base military hospital in Tehran, West Germany, American doctors there have appeared to be suffering from a neurological disorder. The department official said the tests on Mr. Queen were proceeding well, but it would probably be a day or two before they were completed and the diplomat could return to the United States.

NAIROBI, July 14 (AP) -- Ethiopia's state radio said four were sentenced to death by a court martial that determined a four-month trial that they plotted with the CIA to overthrow Marxist military government of Lt. Col. Mengistu Haile Mariam. Soldiers were named as Desta Tadesse and Makonnen Fikre Lieutenant Colonels, Deshem Makete, a doctor and Tesfaye ara, not further identified. It was not immediately known what sentences were carried out, or whether the trial was another series launched by Mengistu to purge the Ethiopian military enemies.

BELGRADE, July 14 (AP) -- Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher will pay an official visit to Yugoslavia in September on invitation of Federal Premier Veselin Djuranovic, the official agency Tanjug reported today. The date or other details of the were not announced.

WARSAW, July 14 (AP) -- Negotiations over wages and benefits continued yesterday in six major plants where disputes have broken out in recent weeks over meat price increases, dissent is reported. Workers staged protests at some 20 factories as increases were announced earlier this month. The price of common meat jumped by 60 per cent. Agreements on wages bonuses to offset the new prices have been reached in most plants.

BELGRADE, July 14 (R) -- An earth tremor shook the city of Belgrade today. But officials report casualties or damage. It was the third and strongest tremor in the area in three days. More than 100 people were injured and were left homeless when a violent earthquake hit the same area May.

ATHENS, July 14 (AP) -- Turkish Airlines today resumed its flights to Greece using air corridors over the Aegean Sea that had been closed for six years. The two countries banned commercial traffic over the Aegean in the wake of the Turkish invasion of Greece in 1974. They lifted the ban last February, enabling commercial airlines to fly a direct route between Greece and Turkey instead of flying Beirut or Bulgaria.

TAGAMACHI, Japan, July 14 (R) -- Nearly 200 police searched ditches and bushes today for 45 poisonous snakes re by a smuggler who used them to hide a cache of arms from the U.S. search began on Saturday after a man told police he had 70 snakes, including 30 Russell's vipers and 15 cobras, and nearby village after freezing them in dry ice to enable him to re the smuggled pistols from their bags. The police found 12 dead snakes but the other reptiles had been only temporarily immobilised. The man and his accomplice who packed the have been arrested on suspicion of smuggling firearms.

Indian parliament to discuss compulsory sterilisation bill

NEW DELHI, July 14 (R) -- A staunch supporter of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi plans to table a bill in parliament providing for compulsory sterilisation of Indians with more than two children.

Kushwant Singh, editor of the *Hindustan Times* newspaper who was nominated to the Rajya Sabha (upper house) after Mrs. Gandhi was returned to power last January, said that under the private members' bill, couples with more than three children would lose their voting rights.

The government has given no indication that it would support such a bill.

Mr. Singh told doctors here yesterday that reports criticising the

compulsory sterilisation programme during Mrs. Gandhi's 1975-77 controversial emergency rule had been exaggerated.

He said mistakes were no doubt committed, and "we have got to learn from them."

During the emergency, Indian states were given sterilisation targets, and the total number of operations rose to eight million in one year before Mrs. Gandhi was voted out of office in March 1977. The number of sterilisations dropped to 800,000 the following year, but has increased since.

India's population was officially estimated at 659 million last March -- an increase of more than 100 million in less than 10 years.

China marriage age lowered but only one child advocated

PEKING, July 14 (AP) -- While still insisting on one-child families, China quietly is lowering the "recommended" marriage age which prohibits most city youth from marrying until they are 27.

It is being lowered by one year in the cities, apparently in response to medical opinion that women should bear children when they are younger. Another apparent but unspoken reason is to relieve some sexual frustration in this highly moralistic society.

A spokesman for the Peking municipal government said the recommended age recently was dropped to 26 for men and 24 for women.

In the countryside, the minimum recommended age for marriage remained unchanged: 25 for men and 23 for women.

The age difference between city and countryside reflects the need to control population in greatly overcrowded cities. It also is a concession to China's peasant tradition of early marriage.

While China's vigorous family planning programme calls for late marriage, the law of the land is quite different. It sets the legal minimum age at 20 for men and 18 for women.

The forthcoming National People's Congress, China's parliament, is expected to revise the marriage law when it convenes in August, and could raise it to correspond to the recommended ages.

Various state and birth planning groups would not say, however, that the recommended age has been lowered, apparently awaiting an official announcement or a decision by the congress.

Birth planning officials in China's most populous province of Sichuan said recently that they heard the age has been lowered but have not received written notice.

"We are strongly advocating one child, and we think the marriage age is not related to birth control," said Wan Chang Wen, vice director of the provincial birth control office.

He said the age is being lowered because many doctors believe it is better for women to give birth while they are younger, when there are fewer complications.

"There is no problem with sexual frustration," he asserted. "Of course young people have natural desires but they can restrain themselves because our social system requires that young people should study and be disciplined."

However, crime among youth, including rape, increasingly has been reported in the official press. Months ago the China Youth News reprinted a pathetic letter from a young man who asked for advice in controlling his sexual desires. Study, sports and foot baths were recommended.

More than a year ago, wall posters on "democracy wall" called for sexual emancipation and even houses of prostitution.

Trying to keep a lid on China's youth becomes increasingly difficult as they are exposed to provocative styles, music, books and movies. The official press frequently denounces some Hong Kong and Taiwan songs as too sensual.

Provocative and pornographic books in underground circulation are confiscated whenever they are discovered.

Carter reviews economy

JEKYLL ISLAND, Georgia, July 14 (R) -- President Carter held talks with top economic advisers at his holiday retreat yesterday, apparently to review an economy hit by recession and rising unemployment.

No details were given on the talks, which involved Vice President Walter Mondale, Treasury Secretary William Miller, Budget Director James McIntyre and Mr. Charles Schultze, chairman of Mr. Carter's council of economic advisors. They flew back to Washington after a two-hour conference.

The administration is planning to issue an assessment of the country's economic situation soon, dealing with recession and unemployment problems.

Mr. Strauss advocates closer ties with the United States and a harder line against the Soviet Union. He has made clear in policy speeches that he does not consider detente a panacea for present East-West ills.

Conference attempts to ease the burden on women

By Bryan Wilder

COPENHAGEN, July 14 -- Five years after the launch of the United Nations Decade for Women, the female half of the world's population is worse off than before, according to recent U.N. reports.

Delegates to the U.N. mid-decade conference opening here today will try again to ease the burden on women and this time there seems to be a determination to keep the conference from getting sidetracked on politically-charged issues.

The two-week U.N. convention, as well as a non-

government forum, will appraise the progress of women since a 14-point global plan of action was adopted at a 1975 conference in Mexico City. The conferences will set new goals for the next five years.

Halfway through the so-called "Decade for Women," reams of U.N. reports indicate that the economic crises of the 1970s have settled on women's shoulders.

A proposed revision of the 1975-1985 plan of action envisions the need for yet another women's decade and a third conference on women in 1985. A major objective of the revised plan will be to integrate women's concerns into individual countries' national development plans.

"Stagnation and deterioration describe women's condition in national life in most countries since 1975," is the sombre appraisal of one conference document.

Other documents brought out these points: -- Middle class women have made some educational gains, but the gains have not been matched by an

increase in suitable jobs. -- Female illiteracy rates have increased in less developed countries and the introduction of advanced technology has taken jobs away from women and has often impaired their health.

-- The current world economic crisis has affected women more seriously than men, increasing their unemployment and cutting back of essential services as medical and day care.

-- In 1980, females account for half the world's population, but for two-thirds of the world's work hours. They receive only one tenth of world income, and they own one hundredth of its property.

The overall theme of the mid-decade conference is health, employment and education, but a day and a half of the conference will be devoted to committee work on the effects of Israeli occupation on Palestinian women and measures to aid them.

A working paper, drafted by the Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA), drew sharp protest from Israel and western countries when it was issued as an

official document of the women's conference.

The ECWA paper refers to Israel as "Arab lands occupied" since 1948, 1967 and 1972. It calls on the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) to play an active role in improving Palestinian social and economic conditions.

Danish cultural affairs minister Lise Oestergaard, head of the Danish delegation and conference president, warned: "If a resolution is presented that denies Israel's right to exist, Denmark will disassociate itself from it."

But she said she was confident the conference would not let itself be derailed.

Conference sources indicated there was a tacit understanding among key delegations, including at least 15 PLO observers with speaking rights, to keep controversial parts of the ECWA paper in the background and not to jeopardise agreement on actual measures to aid Palestinian women.

The burden of South Africa's apartheid racial policy will occupy

another two days of committed attention based on three working papers. One states that "apartheid permeates, penetrates, controls and distorts all facets of the lives of African women, making it impossible for them to benefit from even the most minimal kinds of programmes being instituted elsewhere."

A draft plan of action calls on all countries to stop all collaboration with racist regimes in southern Africa.

Concurrent with the official U.N. conference is an updated version of Mexico City's 1975 Tribune conference, a parallel convention of international women's organisations under the Congress of Non-Governmental Organisations (CONGO). The parallel conference is aptly named "The Mid-decade Forum."

The 10-day parallel conference is open to virtually anyone, with U.N. delegates attending as observers. Its aim, according to convenor Ms. Elizabeth Palmer of New York, is "to provide women with the opportunity to exchange experiences and concerns, and go

home and become more active at women's programmes in their own countries."

The forum will consist of series of discussions and workshops with no attempt to formal resolutions. Few of the forum's participants will enjoy the government expense accounts afforded U.N. delegates, but the U.N. of Copenhagen's tourist announced that a number of city's restaurants will try to "Copenhagenise" the expensive version of Mexico City's 1975 Tribune conference, a parallel convention of international women's organisations under the Congress of Non-Governmental Organisations (CONGO). The parallel conference is aptly named "The Mid-decade Forum."

Throughout the two-week conference, the Danish capital show arts and crafts and highlighting female artists centering on feminine "Free music and dance performances will be staged number of theatres, museums, public parks.

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